

# Farmingdale School District

**DATE:** August 25, 2021

**KIND OF MEETING:** Board Meeting

PLACE: Howitt Middle School Band Room, Howitt Middle School Auditorium,

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mr. Goldberg, Mrs. D'Amico, Mr. Espinosa, Mr. Giordano, Mrs. Lively,

Mr. Morales

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Mrs. Soete

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Mr. Defendini, Dr. Ripley, Mr. Zakian, Dr. Brennan, Dr. Olsen, Mr.

Motisi, Richard Guercio, Esq., Reesa Miles, Esq., Christophe Sushko,

Esq. (Executive Session Only), Mrs. Rogers

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Band Room at the Howitt Middle

School by Mr. Goldberg, President of the Board of Education.

Pledge of Allegiance Motion made by Mrs. D'Amico, seconded by Mrs. Lively, to meet in executive session to discuss specific legal, collective bargaining and personnel issues in accordance with Open Meetings Law.

Motion carried 6-0

Meeting recessed for executive session at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting reconvened in the Howitt Auditorium at 8:00 p.m.

The public portion of the meeting was called to order by Board President Michael Goldberg at 8:00 p.m. He began by explaining the format of the meeting. He stated that the Board of Education provides two opportunities for the public to express ideas and share thoughts. The first would be after we receive an update from our Superintendent. The second would be after the business portion of the meeting had concluded. He stated that both sessions would be 30 minutes in duration and all speakers would be limited to 3 minutes to give as many people a chance to speak as possible. Members of the public were asked to approach any one of the three microphones in the front of the auditorium. He asked that anyone speaking state their name and address prior to beginning your comments so that the District Clerk can accurately reflect the minutes of tonight's meeting. Mrs. Rogers would let me know when you have thirty seconds left so you can wrap up your comments before the end of the three minutes. You must be stationed at a microphone to express your ideas and share your thoughts with the Board.

Mr. Goldberg stated that the Board of Education respects the varied opinions of the community Any behaviors that threaten the integrity of the meeting would not be tolerated and would cause the meeting to be adjourned.

Charges, complaints or challenges should follow procedures listed under Policies 1400, 1410 and/or 1440, which are included on the materials table. Mr. Goldberg pointed out the emergency exits. He thanked all for their cooperation. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance

Board President Michael Goldberg asked for a motion to change the order of business.

## Consent Agenda

On a motion made by Mrs. D'Amico, seconded by Mr. Espinosa, the order of business contained in the public meeting agenda, set forth in Policy 2350, was amended to allow the Board to vote upon the consent agenda prior to the Superintendent's update during the August 25, 2021 meeting of the Board of Education.

Motion carried 6-0.

Motion made by Mrs. D'Amico, seconded by Mr. Espinosa, that the Consent Agenda consisting of Items I (a-i), II (a-s) and III (a-d) be approved as a whole with action recorded separately.

## **Business Report**

**RESULT:** APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] Suzanne D'Amico, Vice President **MOVER:** 

**SECONDER:** Mario Espinosa, Trustee

**AYES:** Lively, Morales, Goldberg, Espinosa, Giordano, D'Amico

**ABSENT:** Arlene Soete

Acceptance for File of Financial Reports

Acceptance of Claims Auditor **Report - June** 

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education accept for file the Claims Auditor Report for the months of June & July 2021 pursuant to the authority contained in Section 170.2 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of

Education and in accordance with Board Policy 6600.

& July 2021

Approval of Contracts and Agreements

Approval of **Special** Education and General

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale UFSD Board of Education approve the following contracts for Special Education and General Education services for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 and that the Board President be authorized to sign said contracts.

Education

**Contracts** CHRISTINE BAUDIN, MS, CCC-SLP

BELLMORE-MERRICK SCHOOL DISTRICT

DEBRA BLATT, MS CCC/SLP

BLUE SEA EDUCATIONAL CONSULTING, INC. CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES EAST MEADOW SCHOOL DISTRICT

FONTANETTA NEUROPSYCHOLOGY, PLLC

DONNA GEFFNER, Ph.D., CCC-Sp/A

HENRY VISCARDI SCHOOL

LEVITTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

METRO THERAPY, INC.

MKSA, LLC.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORT CONSULTING & PSYCHOLOGICAL

RESOURCES, PC

ROCKVILLE CENTRE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCO FAMILY OF SERVICES/MADONNA HEIGHTS SCHOOL

SCO FAMILY OF SERVICES/WESTBROOK PREPARATORY SCHOOL

SMITHTOWN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

STRATEGIC TRAINING AND RESEARCH CONSULTANTS, LLC.

UNIONDALE UFSD

WESTBURY UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Approval of a One-Year Extension for Transportation Contracts for 2021/22 School Year RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education approve a one-year extension for the transportation contracts listed below for the 2021/22 school year.

Contractors	Percentage Increase
<b>Educational Bus Transport</b>	Lesser of CPI or 4%
Suburban Bus	Lesser of CPI or 4%
Denise Pierre	Lesser of CPI or 4%

Such contract extensions are in accordance with state law and the regulations of the Commissioner of Education.

Approval of the NoRedInk Corp. Agreement for the 2021/22 School Year RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale School District Board of Education approve the NoRedInk Corp. Agreement (for an online web-based language-learning platform) for the 2021/22 School Year and to authorize the Board President to sign the appropriate agreement.

Approval of an Agreement with PLC Associates, Inc. RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale School District Board of Education approve an Agreement between the Farmingdale School District and PLC Associates for the purpose of state-required support for the district and school improvement plans and to authorize the Board President to sign said agreement.

Approval of a Revised Articulation Agreement with Farmingdale State College RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale School District Board of Education approve a REVISED Articulation Agreement with Farmingdale State College (originally approved 7/14/21) regarding the Farmingdale High School Business Education college-level credit program and to authorize the Board President to sign the appropriate agreement.

Acceptance of a Donation to the Community Assistance Fund from the Farmingdale

Federation of Teachers Retiree Chapter RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education acknowledge, accept and thank the Farmingdale Federation of Teachers Retiree Chapter for a donation of funds to the district's Community Assistance Fund, in memory of the following members: Rose Marshall, Carol DeStefano, Louise Forrest, Joann Failla, Mary Ann Senecal, Gwenn Nitsberg, Athena Couchells, Jack Extract, and Kathleen Hann.

Approval of Transfer of Funds -August 2021 RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education approve the attached transfer of funds for the purposes noted.

Approval of Declaration of Obsolete Equipment -August 2021 RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education declare the attached items as obsolete and disposed of in accordance with Board Policy 6900.

Approval of a Variance to Board Policy 1500 for Maria Regina Swim Program for the 2020/21

School Year

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education approve a variance to Board Policy 1500 to maintain the 2018/19 fee schedule for the 2020/21 school year for Maria Regina Swim Program.

Approval of Change Order #1 with Mt. Olympos RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education accept Change Order #1 to Mt. Olympos Restoration, Inc for plumbing fixture layout change and piping relocation related to the Bathroom Project at Woodward Parkway Elementary School.

Restoration, Inc. for Plumbing Fixture

This change order has been agreed to by the district's architect and contractor at our request.

Layout
Change and
Piping
Relocation
Related to the
Bathroom

Change Order #1 Additional \$29,250

Related to the Bathroom Project at Woodward Parkway Elementary School

Approval of Educational Bus/Bethpage Piggybacking Resolution WHEREAS, the Farmingdale Union Free School District ("Farmingdale") has entered into a transportation contract dated June 30, 2020 with Educational Bus Inc. (the "Contract"); and

WHEREAS, Education Law § 305(14)(g) authorizes the Bethpage Union Free School District ("Bethpage") to enter into a piggyback contract with another school district that transports students pursuant to a contract with a private transportation contractor; and

WHEREAS, certain Bethpage students are eligible for transportation to locations outside of the Bethpage Union Free School District and Educational Bus Inc. transports Farmingdale students to such locations pursuant to the terms of the Contract, and such routes are set forth in Attachment "A"; and NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Farmingdale's Board of Education hereby approves an arrangement in which Bethpage enters into a piggyback contract with Educational Bus Inc. to provide transportation to certain Bethpage students covered under the routes set forth in Attachment "A" pursuant to the same terms and conditions of the Contract, subject to a formal resolution of Bethpage's Board of Education approving same and full execution of a contract between Educational Bus Inc. and Bethpage.

Approval of Award of Bid for Transportation for Special Education and Non-Public School Students for the 2021/22 School Year Resolved, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education approve the Award of Bid for Transportation for Special Education and Non-Public School Students for the 2021/22 School Year to Nassau County Consortium per the attached computation sheet, at the prices indicated, these companies being the lowest qualified bidders at the bid opening on June 24, 2021.

Bids for Transportation for Special Education and Non-Public School Students for the 2021/22 school year for the Nassau County Consortium were solicited from the following prospective bidders:

**Educational Bus Transportation, Inc.** 

First Student, Inc.

**Suburban Bus Transportation, Inc.** 

**WE Transport** 

**Dell Transportation** 

Items for Action

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Suzanne D'Amico, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Mario Espinosa, Trustee

**AYES:** Lively, Morales, Goldberg, Espinosa, Giordano, D'Amico

**ABSENT:** Arlene Soete

Approval of a Memorandum of Agreement Regarding an Employee Named in Executive Session RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education approve a Memorandum of Agreement regarding an employee named in executive session and that the Board of Education be authorized to sign said agreement.

Approval of a Repayment Agreement with Employee Named in Executive Session RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education approve a Repayment Agreement regarding an employee named in Executive Session, and that the Board President be authorized to sign said agreement.

Approval of Expenses Related to District Meetings, Events, Staff Development and Designated

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education that the expenses related to District Meetings, Events, Staff Development and Designated Awards Ceremonies be approved at the discretion of the Superintendent for the 2021-2022.

Awards Ceremonies at the Discretion of the Superintendent for 2021-2022 School Year

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education appoint members to the Committee on Special Education and Committee on Preschool Special Education in accordance with Board Policy 4321.14.

Appointment of Committee on Special Education/ Preschool

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale School District Board of Education approve the 2021-22 District Comprehensive Improvement Plan.

Approval of the 2021-22 District Comprehensive Improvement Plan (DCIP) Approval of the 2021-22 School Comprehensive Education Plan (SCEP) -Northside School RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale School District Board of Education approve the 2021-22 School Comprehensive Education Plan (SCEP) - Northside School.

# Approval of the 2021-22 School Comprehensive Education Plan - Howitt Middle School

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale School District Board of Education approve the 2021-22 School Comprehensive Education Plan (SCEP) - Howitt Middle School.

# Approval of the 2021-22 Response to Intervention (RtI) Plan

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale School District Board of Education approve the 2021-22 Response to Intervention (RtI) Plan.

# Approval of the Professional Development Plan (PDP) for the 2021-2022 School Year

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale School District Board of Education approve the Professional Development Plan (PDP) for the 2021-2022 school year in accordance with New York State Education Part 100.2dd Regulations.

# Appointment of Impartial Hearing Officer

Resolved, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education appoint JEANNE KEEFE as Impartial Hearing Officer for an Impartial Hearing for Student No. 908423, to be paid at a compensation rate up to \$100 per hour for Pre-Hearing, Hearing, and Post-Hearing activities and other charges according to Policy No. 4321.08.

# Approval of Property Tax Exemption -Alternative Veterans

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education adopt the attached Property Tax Exemption motion for Alternative Veterans for the 2022/23 school year.

## Approval of Property Tax Exemption -Gold Star Parents

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education adopt the attached Property Tax Exemption motion for Gold Star Parents for the 2022/23 school year.

Approval of Property Tax Exemption -Cooperative Corporation Veterans RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education adopt the attached Property Tax Exemption motion for Cooperative Corporation Veterans for the 2022/23 school year.

Approval of Property Tax Exemption -Cold War Veterans RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education adopt the attached Property Tax Exemption motion for Cold War Veterans for the 2022/23 school year.

Approval of Property Tax Exemption -Persons with Disabilities and Limited Income RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education adopt the attached Property Tax Exemption motion for Persons with Disabilities and Limited Income for the 2022/23 school year.

Approval of Property Tax Exemption -Senior Citizens with Limited

Income

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education adopt the attached Property Tax Exemption motion for Senior Citizens with Limited Income for the 2022/23 school year.

Approval of Property Tax Exemption -Volunteer Firefighters & Ambulance Workers with Five Years of Service RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education adopt the attached Property Tax Exemption motion for Volunteer Firefighters & Ambulance Workers with Five Years of Service for the 2022/23 school year.

Approval of Property Tax Exemption -Firefighter & Ambulance Workers with Unremarried Spouses of those Killed in Line of Duty RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education adopt the attached Property Tax Exemption motion for Firefighters & Ambulance Workers with Unremarried Spouses of those Killed in the Line of Duty for the 2022/23 school year.

Approval of Property Tax Exemption -Volunteer Firefighters & Ambulance Workers with Unremarried Spouses of Deceased

**Members** 

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale UFSD Board of Education adopt the attached Property Tax Exemption motion for Volunteer Firefighters & Ambulance Workers with Unremarried Spouses of Deceased Members for the 2022/23 school year.

### Superintendent's Report

**RESULT:** APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] MOVER: Suzanne D'Amico, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Mario Espinosa, Trustee

**AYES:** Lively, Morales, Goldberg, Espinosa, Giordano, D'Amico

ABSENT: Arlene Soete

Personnel Items -- Instructional

Instructional: Appointment / Administrative - Confirmation RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve an instructional personnel action: "Appointment / Administrative (Confirmation of Start Date) 2021 - 2022", in accordance with Board Policy 9230. Appointments do not exceed the number of positions authorized in the budget.

of Start Date 2021-2022

2021-2022

Instructional: Appointment / Administrative 2021-2022 RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve an instructional personnel action: "Appointment / Administrative: 2021 - 2022", in accordance with Board Policy 9230. Appointments do not exceed the number of positions authorized in the budget.

**Instructional:** Resignation

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District accept an instructional personnel action: "Resignation," effective on the date noted hereon and for the reason stated.

Instructional: Leave of Absence 2021 / 2022 RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District accept an instructional personnel action: "Leave of Absence 2021 / 2022", effective for the dates noted hereon and for the reasons stated.

Instructional: Appointments / 2021-2022

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of instructional personnel actions: "Appointments / 2020-2021", in

accordance with Board Policy 9230. Appointments do not exceed the number of positions authorized in the budget.

In order to be eligible for tenure, an individual receiving a probationary appointment as a classroom teacher or building principal must receive annual composite or overall APPR ratings of H or E in at least three of the four preceding years, and if the Individual received a rating of I in the final year of the probationary period, he or she will not be eligible for tenure at that time.

Instructional: Appointments Regular Substitutes 2021/2022 RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of instructional personnel actions: "Appointments Regular Substitute / 2021-2022", in accordance with Board Policy 9230. Appointments do not exceed the number of positions authorized in the budget.

Instructional: Appointments - Part time / 2021-2022 RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of instructional personnel actions: "Appointment - Part time / 2020-2021", in accordance with Board Policy 9230. Appointments do not exceed the number of positions authorized in the budget. Part time positions are annual appointments.

Instructional: Appointments / 2021-2022 Secondary School Leadership Team RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of instructional personnel actions: "Appointments / 2021-2022 Secondary School Leadership Team." Designations and stipends are in accord with the approved budget.

Instructional: Appointment of On Call, Per Diem Substitute

**Teachers** 

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of instructional personnel actions: "Appointment of On-Call, Per Diem Substitute Teachers", subject to termination at any time.

Instructional: Coaching and Extra Curricular Appointments RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of instructional personnel actions: "Coaching and Extra Curricular Appointments", in accordance with Board Policy 5200. Appointments do not exceed the number of positions authorized in the budget. Stipends are contingent upon completion of assignments.

Personnel Items -- Non-Instructional

Non-Instructional: Resignation RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District accept a non-instructional personnel action: "Resignation for the Purpose of Retirement / CSEA"

for the Purpose of Retirement / CSEA effective on the date noted hereon and to adopt the corresponding retirement resolution.

Non-Instructional: Resignation / CSEA RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District accept a non-instructional personnel action: "Resignation / CSEA," effective on the date noted hereon.

Non-Instructional: Appointment-Return from Leave of Absence / CSEA RESOLVED, that upon the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a non-instructional personnel action: "Appointment-Return from Leave of Absence / CSEA", in accordance with Nassau County Civil Service Commission regulations. Appointments do not exceed the number of positions authorized in the budget.

Non-Instructional: Appointments - Provisional Promotions / CSEA RESOLVED, that upon the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of non-instructional personnel actions: "Appointments - Provisional Promotions / CSEA", in accordance with Nassau County Civil Service Commission regulations. Appointments do not exceed the number of positions authorized in the budget.

Non-Instructional: Appointment / CSEA-DWO RESOLVED, that upon the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a non-instructional personnel actions: "Appointment / CSEA-DWO", in accordance with Nassau County Civil Service Commission regulations. Appointments do not exceed the number of positions authorized in the budget.

Noninstructional: Approval of Per Diem Work for Civil Service Retiree RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a work schedule for the Civil Service supervising security aide retiree for per diem summer work as determined by the Superintendent of Schools or his designee (not to exceed 40 days each) at the Board of Education approved daily rate.

Non-Instructional: Resignations / TASM RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District accept a schedule of non-instructional personnel actions: "Resignations / TASM," effective on the date noted hereon and for the reason stated.

Non-Instructional: Leave of Absence - RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of non-instructional personnel actions: "Leaves of Absence-TASM / 2021-

TASM / 2021-2022 2022" in accordance with Nassau County Civil Service Commission regulations and for the reason noted.

Non-Instructional: Resignations / School Lunch Program RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District accept a schedule of non-instructional personnel actions: "Resignations / School Lunch Program," effective on the date noted hereon.

Non-Instructional: Leave of Absence / Food Service 2021-2022 RESOLVED, that upon the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a non-instructional personnel action: "Leave of Absence/ Food Service 2021-2022" in accordance with Nassau County Civil Service Commission regulations.

Noninstructional: Appointment of Lifeguards Grade 1 / Lifeguard Trainees RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of non-instructional personnel actions: "Appointment of Lifeguards Grade 1 / Lifeguard Trainees", subject to termination at any time.

Noninstructional: Appointment / On-Call, Per Diem Substitute RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a non-instructional personnel action: "Appointment / On-Call, Per Diem Substitute Bodily Hygiene Aide", subject to termination at any time.

Non-instructional: Appointment /

**Bodily** 

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of non-instructional personnel actions: "Appointments / On-Call, Per Diem Substitute Food Service", subject to termination at any time.

Appointment On-Call, Per Diem Substitute Food Service

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of non-instructional personnel actions: "Appointments / On-Call, Per Diem Substitute School Monitor", subject to termination at any time.

instructional: Appointment / On-Call, Per Diem Substitute School Monitors

Non-

Noninstructional: Appointment of On-Call, Per Diem Substitute Typist Clerks RESOLVED, that upon the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a non-instructional personnel actions, "Appointment of On-Call, Per Diem Substitute Typist Clerk", subject to termination at any time.

Noninstructional: Appointments / On-Call, Per Diem Substitute

**Teacher Aides** 

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of non-instructional personnel actions: "Appointments / On-Call, Per Diem Substitute Teacher Aides", subject to termination at any time.

Noninstructional: Approval of Per Diem Work for Civil Service

Retiree

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve the a work schedule for Civil Service employee retirees for per diem work as determined by the Superintendent of Schools or his designee (not to exceed 20 days each) at the Board of Education approved daily rate.

Non-Instructional: Appointment / TASM RESOLVED, that upon the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of non-instructional personnel actions: "Appointments / TASM", in accordance with Nassau County Civil Service Commission regulations. Appointments do not exceed the number of positions authorized in the budget.

Approval of the Committee on Preschool Special Education Placements Report and Acceptance for File of Said Report RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Farmingdale UFSD Board of Education approve and accept for file the Committee on Preschool Special Education Placements Report by the Director of Special Education dated August 8, 2021, in accordance with New York State Education Part 200 Regulations.

Approval of the Committee on Special Education Placements Report and Acceptance for File of Said Report

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Farmingdale UFSD Board of Education approve and accept for file the Committee on Special Education Placements Report by the Director of Special Education dated August 8, 2021, in accordance with New York State Education Part 200 Regulations.

## Superintendent's Update

## Monthly Update

Board President Michael Goldberg introduced the Superintendent of Schools and asked for his monthly update. Mr. Defendini began his update with the status of the school building readiness for the September 1 opening. He thanked the operations and maintenance staff for their work in getting the summer work completed. He stated that bathroom renovations were on-going and that the district anticipated substantial completion for September. Mr. Defendini stated that the Howitt Chorus, under the direction of Danielle Tucker, was practicing for the September 11 Memorial service, which would be held on Thursday, September 9 at the Farmingdale Public Library.

Mr. Defendini outlined the school reopening plan as in place on that evening. He also stated that the plan would be reviewed as additional information was received from the Governor's office, the State Education Department, the New York State Department of Health and/or the CDC. The district planned for a mask optional status. Staff would return on September1 and students would be in classrooms on September 2. He stated that daily specials would be held in those dedicated classrooms again and the lunchrooms would be reopened. There would not be a remote option available to students or staff. Mr. Defendini stated that there is a statewide bus driver shortage at this time. (Note: Reopening plans were adjusted as direction was received.)

Mr. Defendini also reported on the Aquatic Center construction. He stated that all of the contracts had been awarded prior to the building construction inflation seen in recent months. The anticipated completion date was projected to be near the holidays. He stated that building use opportunities by community groups were now available.

Mr. Defendini concluded his update by thanking the various staff teams for all of their efforts to bring about a 2021-2022 school year opening that looks and feels normal. He hopes for a successful year ahead. Mr. Goldberg also thanked the administrators, support staff, teachers, nurses and organizations for their support and cooperation.

# Public Participation

Board President Michael Goldberg opened the meeting for the first public participation.

A parent expressed her right to parent control over the mask-wearing issue. She thanked Mr. Defendini for taking the mask optional position. She stated that she would like to see all of the COVID data that the governor referenced in her recent press conference.

A parent encouraged the Board to join the Massapequa Schools' Board of Education lawsuit related to local control over the mask mandates.

A parent identified herself as a contact tracer and encouraged the Farmingdale Board of Education to require masks.

A parent referenced the Nuremberg codes and spoke about children's innocence.

A parent spoke about her child's anxiety level.

A parent spoke referenced a Johns Hopkins study related to COVID cases.

A parent spoke about her disabled children and her negative experiences with remote learning.

A parent asked for continued remote learning opportunities for students who were not comfortable returning to school. Mr. Defendini stated that students learn best in school and that the decision to remove remote learning was made to support students.

A parent detailed respiratory issues related to mask wearing.

Richard Guercio, the school district's attorney, addressed the public on behalf of the Board of Education. Mr. Guercio provided an overview of the various public agencies and their associated authority to create policy, guidelines and mandates. Information that would be forthcoming would be analyzed as it relates to the department, agency or elected parties issuing the direction. The State Education Department may not have the jurisdiction to mandate health policies; they may turn to Commissioner Zucker and the Department of Health for guidance. The Department of Health may have the ability to create mandates that are enforceable. Mr. Guercio concluded by stating that the information shared by the members of the public are important; they may be better served to reach out to their elected officials at the state level.

#### **Board of Education Minutes**

Board of Education - Organizational Meeting - Jul 14, 2021 7:30 PM

RESULT: ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Suzanne D'Amico. Vice President

**SECONDER:** Mario Espinosa, Trustee

AYES: Lively, Morales, Goldberg, Espinosa, Giordano, D'Amico

**ABSENT:** Arlene Soete

Board of Education - Board Meeting - Jul 14, 2021 8:00 PM

**RESULT:** ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS] MOVER: Suzanne D'Amico, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Mario Espinosa, Trustee

**AYES:** Lively, Morales, Goldberg, Espinosa, Giordano, D'Amico

**ABSENT:** Arlene Soete

Board of Education - Special Meeting - Jul 27, 2021 6:00 PM

**RESULT:** ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS] MOVER: Suzanne D'Amico, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Mario Espinosa, Trustee

**AYES:** Lively, Morales, Goldberg, Espinosa, Giordano, D'Amico

**ABSENT:** Arlene Soete

RESULT: ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Suzanne D'Amico, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Kathy Lively, Trustee

**AYES:** Lively, Morales, Goldberg, Espinosa, Giordano, D'Amico

**ABSENT:** Arlene Soete

**Board** Correspondence

Board President Michael Goldberg asked the District Clerk if there was any correspondence. Mrs. Rogers reported that the Board had received a number of emails, both in favor of and against, mask mandates. There was an email about baseball cards; a parent request regarding a BOCES program, and an invitation to attend a collective Boards of Education meeting with other districts.

Board Committee Reports Board of President Michael Goldberg asked the trustees for their committee reports. Mr. Espinosa reminded the public of the Farmingdale Remembers 9/11 memorial service scheduled for Thursday, September 9, at 6:00 p.m. at the Farmingdale Public Library.

#### **Items for Discussion and Action**

Authorization to Set Tax Levy for the 2021/22 School Year RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District authorizes to set the tax levy for the 2021/22 school year subject to adjustment based upon the application of the final equalization rates and assessed values from the Town of Oyster Bay, Nassau County and Town of Babylon, Suffolk County.

#### Discussion:

Board President Michael Goldberg asked Mr. Motisi for his update on the setting of the tax levy. Mr. Motisi stated that the resolution before the Board of Education is intended to provide the authority to send apportionment information to the various taxing authorities. A full summary would be provided to the Board of Education at the September Board meeting.

**RESULT:** APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] MOVER: Suzanne D'Amico, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Kathy Lively, Trustee

AYES: Lively, Morales, Goldberg, Espinosa, Giordano, D'Amico

**ABSENT:** Arlene Soete

Approval of a Request for an Exemption to the Mandated School Zone RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education approve an exemption to the mandated school zone by reason of a demonstrated personal and/or family hardship in accordance with Board Policy 5110.

### Discussion:

Board President Michael Goldberg asked Mr. Motisi for an update on a request for an exemption to a mandated school zone policy. Mr. Motisi stated that the district had received a request for an exemption to the policy mandated school zone attendance. Specific details had been provided in executive session.

RESULT: DEFEATED [0 TO 6]

**MOVER:** Suzanne D'Amico, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Mario Espinosa, Trustee

NAYS: Lively, Morales, Goldberg, Espinosa, Giordano, D'Amico

**ABSENT:** Arlene Soete

# Public Participation

Board President Michael Goldberg opened the meeting for the second public participation.

A parent spoke about the status of the FDA vaccination approval.

A second parent spoke about the difference between approval and emergency authorization. He spoke about the district taking local control. He questioned if there was any movement on the part of teacher unions and their stance.

A parent spoke of her children's constant headaches because of mask wearing

A parent spoke about her decision to have her children wear masks. She stated that the decision either way is hers to make.

A resident spoke about the 2012 Energy Performance Contract work and the 1992 technology initiative.

Several parents who spoke during the first public participation reiterated their stand on masks and vaccinations.

Mr. Guercio addressed the members of the Board of Education and the public, stating that the Board of Education cannot set policy as it relates to public health. They are required to follow the guidelines presented to them from the various agencies in accordance with the law.

# Adjournment

On a motion made by Mrs. D'Amico, seconded by Mrs. Lively, the meeting was adjourned.

Motion carried 6-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.